

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 5893

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, LE
SUBJECT: SITUATION IN TRIPOLI

1. TRAVELERS VISITING CONSULAR SECTION FROM TRIPOLI
IN PAST FEW DAYS HAVE PROVIDED EMBASSY WITH FOLLOWING
INFORMATION ABOUT SITUATION INSIDE TRIPOLI: A) OBTAINING
FOOD PRESENTS NO PROBLEM: B) ELECTRICITY AVAILABLE FOR
THREE HOURS DAILY: C) WATER AVAILABLE DAILY FOR LIMITED
TIME, BUT ONLY TO LOWER FLOORS OF BUILDINGS: D) PRINCIPAL
DANGER WITHIN CITY, ACCORDING TO ONE TRAVELER, IS NOT
FROM RIGHTIST ARTILLERY -- ALTHOUGH SHELLING DOES TAKE
PLACE -- BUT FROM ALMOST DAILY CLASHES AMONG LEFTIST GROUPS.

2. TRAVEL FROM TRIPOLI TO SYRIAN BORDER POSSIBLE BY
TAXI, BUT OCCASIONAL CLASHES BETWEEN SYRIAN TROOPS AND
PALESTINIANS AT NAHR AL BARID CAMP PRESENT SOME DANGER.
TRAVEL BY SHIP TO CYPRUS HAS BECOME MORE DANGEROUS
BECAUSE SHIPS SUBJECT TO ROCKET AND ARTILLERY FIRE
FROM HILLS AROUND TRIPOLI.

3. FORMER AUB SECURITY CHIEF TOLD EMBOFFS AKKAR
REGION, WHERE HE PRESENTLY RESIDING, HAS BEEN
COMPLETELY PACIFIED BY SYRIAN FORCES.
PELLETREAU

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